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Administrative (Registers)

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12 MAY 1949

MEMORANDUM TO: Director of Intelligence  
General Staff, U.S. Army

SUBJECT: Request for Research Project on Selected Towns  
of the U.S.S.R.

1. This Agency is coordinating certain intelligence studies on selected towns of the U.S.S.R. It is understood that the Engineer Research Division of the Army Map Service has the competence and source materials needed for the preparation of specific parts of these studies.

2. It is requested that the Chief of Engineers be asked to instruct the Army Map Service to cooperate in these studies by furnishing this Agency with materials and manuscript in accordance with the outline presented below for selected towns on a continuing basis. Working level coordination will be established between the Chief of the Map Branch, CIA, and the Chief of the Engineer Research Division, Army Map Service.

3. It is anticipated that the requested rate of production will be one to two studies per month. Two manuscript copies of textual material, accompanied by listings of readily available bibliographic references and by appropriate sketch plans, in one copy, are desired.

4. The outline for each contribution from the Army Map Service, relating to a specific town of the U.S.S.R., is as follows:

a. Source materials, preferably for retention, or for loan or reproduction.

(1) Latest available editions of town plans and maps  
If the town was materially changed by the war due to destruction and rebuilding, both prewar and postwar maps are desired. Overlays showing war and postwar changes would be very useful. Medium scale maps showing the town and its surroundings, as well as large scale plans, are desired.

(2) Reports, publications and guide books held by the Army Map Service which relate to the specific town.

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b. A textual evaluation of each of the more important town maps and plans available for retention, loan or reproduction.

c. Textual description of location and site.

(1) The name and coordinates

(2) The physical setting within the region  
A brief description of the town's location in relation to surrounding terrain, major towns and major lines of rail, highway and water communication.

(3) Size  
Area and population; recent growth characteristics

(4) Site characteristics  
A description of the terrain characteristics of the site and the generalized layout of the town in relation to surface, drainage and transport facilities.

d. Textual description of the detailed layout.

(1) Type of town  
Modern or old; a castle, cathedral or walled town; a heavy industry or light industry town.

(2) Street pattern or patterns and numbering system, if known.  
Any information on type of street construction. A description of numbering system, including a description of districts or neighborhoods that may be involved.

(3) If information is available, a description of predominant construction of business, government and residential buildings.

5. The tentative listing, in priority sequence, of towns to be considered in this series of studies is as follows:

L'vov	Grodno
Minsk	Vitebsk
Smolensk	Voronezh
Rostov	Daugavpils
Chernovtsy	Riga
Sovetsk (Tilsit)	Khar'kov
Vilnius	Kiev
Kaliningrad	

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6. It is understood that the requested studies fall roughly within the framework of the research activity established for the NIS Program. It is hoped that the work required in fulfillment of this request will not jeopardize the NIS work schedule.

SIGNED

R. H. HILLENKOETTER  
REAR ADMIRAL, U.S.N.  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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B/Ma: [redacted] :apk

29 April 1949

cc: Addressee, orig & 1  
Director 1  
AD/ORE 1 ✓  
S/PP, ORE 1  
EE, ORE 1  
B/Ma, ORE 2  
Central Records

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